

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A data transfer method in an image formation system which is equipped with an image generation controller unit for generating bitmap image data of an image, an image formation unit for forming an  
5 image on a recording medium, an image processing controller unit for controlling the image formation unit and also transferring image data at a timing requested by the image formation unit, and respective  
10 data signal lines for yellow, magenta, cyan and black to be used to transfer the image data between the image generation controller unit and the image processing controller unit, wherein

in a case where the number of image bearing  
15 bodies of the image formation unit is one, when a color image signal is transferred from the image generation controller unit to the image processing controller unit, the image signals of one color component for the four lines are simultaneously  
20 transferred by using the yellow, magenta, cyan and black signal lines repeatedly until the transfer of the image signals for one page ends, and then the image signals of the next color component are transferred, and

25 when a black-and-white image signal is transferred from the image generation controller unit to the image processing controller unit, the image

signals of black color component for the four lines are simultaneously transferred by using the yellow, magenta, cyan and black signal lines repeatedly until the transfer of the image signals for one page ends.

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2. A data transfer method according to Claim 1, wherein in a case where the number of the image bearing bodies of the image formation unit is four,

when the color image signal is transferred from  
10 the image generation controller unit to the image processing controller unit, the image signals of the respective color components for the corresponding one line are simultaneously transferred respectively by using the yellow, magenta, cyan and black signal  
15 lines repeatedly until the transfer of the image signals for one page ends, and

when the black-and-white image signal is transferred from the image generation controller unit to the image processing controller unit, the image  
20 signals of black color component for the four lines are simultaneously transferred by using the yellow, magenta, cyan and black signal lines repeatedly until the transfer of the image signals for one page ends.

25 3. An image formation system which is equipped with an image generation controller unit for generating bitmap image data of an image, an image

formation unit including plural image bearing bodies  
of respective color components and for performing  
image formation by transferring on a recording medium  
images of the respective color components formed on  
5 the respective image bearing bodies, and an image  
processing controller unit for controlling said image  
formation unit and also transferring image data at a  
timing requested by said image formation unit,  
wherein

10 plural video data signal lines of the  
respective color components are provided between said  
image generation controller unit and said image  
processing controller unit, and

when the image data of only a single color is  
15 transferred from said image generation controller  
unit to said image processing controller unit, the  
image data for the plural lines are simultaneously  
transferred by simultaneously using said plural video  
data signal lines.

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4. A data transfer method in an image formation  
system which is equipped with an image generation  
controller unit for generating bitmap image data of  
an image, an image formation unit including plural  
25 image bearing bodies of respective color components  
and for performing image formation by transferring on  
a recording medium images of the respective color

components formed on the respective image bearing  
bodies, an image processing controller unit for  
controlling the image formation unit and also  
transferring image data at a timing requested by the  
5 image formation unit, and plural video data signal  
lines of the respective color components to be  
provided between the image generation controller unit  
and the image processing controller unit, wherein

when the image data of only a single color is  
10 transferred from the image generation controller unit  
to the image processing controller unit, the image  
data for the plural lines are simultaneously  
transferred by simultaneously using the plural video  
data signal lines.

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5. A data transfer method in an image formation  
system which is equipped with an image generation  
controller unit for generating bitmap image data of  
an image, an image formation unit for forming an  
20 image on a recording medium, an image processing  
controller unit for controlling the image formation  
unit and also transferring image data at a timing  
requested by the image formation unit, and respective  
data signal lines for yellow, magenta, cyan and black  
25 to be used to transfer the image data between the  
image generation controller unit and the image  
processing controller unit, wherein

in a case where the number of image bearing  
bodies of the image formation unit is one, when a  
color image signal is transferred from the image  
generation controller unit to the image processing  
5 controller unit, the image signals of one color  
component for the four lines are simultaneously  
transferred by using the yellow, magenta, cyan and  
black signal lines repeatedly until the transfer of  
the image signals for one page ends, and then the  
10 image signals of the next color component are  
transferred, whereby the image signals of the four  
color components are transferred.